

132401-1

REMARKS

Claims 1-34 are pending in the present application. The Examiner has grouped the claims into two groups. Group I contains Claims 1-20 and 29-34. These claims are drawn to a catalyst. Group II contains Claims 21-27 and are drawn to a process that uses a catalyst.

In response to the Examiner's Restriction dated, March 22, 2005, Applicants hereby elect prosecution of Group I (Claims 1-20 and 29-34) with traverse. In making the Restriction the Examiner has asserted that the catalyst could be used in a materially different process, such as the vapor phase condensation of lower alcohols to form higher alcohols. Applicants respectfully request further explanation or support for this assertion.

It is believed that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance is requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicants' attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

CANTOR COLBURN LLP
Applicants' Attorneys

By: Patricia DeSimone
Patricia S. DeSimone
Registration No. 48,137

Date: April 22, 2005
Customer No.: 23413
Telephone: (860) 286-2929